



VICTORY

FLASHES

from **MUHLENBERG**

April 6, 1945

Number 58

Dear Gang:

The big news this week--and it really is BIG--is that the Navy V-12 unit will be with us for at least another term beginning July 1. For the past few months we have been believing that our unit, as well as all other V-12 units across the country, would be withdrawn at the end of the current term on June 30. Official word just the other day brought the very welcome news that the program will be continued at Muhlenberg at least until October 30. We don't know what the quota will be and we don't know much about the curriculum but we do know that whatever they are Muhlenberg will continue doing the good job that has won for it the highest commendation of the Navy. The College welcomes the opportunity to continue to serve the Nation by training men for service. You can imagine, too, how welcome the Navy unit is in these days of war-reduced civilian student enrollment.

The other big news is the continued loyal response to the Alumni Fund. We're mighty proud that to date 663 Muhlenberg men have contributed \$4,817 to help balance Muhlenberg's budget. And we're proud too, that a good bit of it has been coming in from you men in service.

With basketball out of the way we're at work on the Spring Sports schedule. In line with the present policy of naming seasonal coaches for some sports, Horace "Horse" Heist of the Class of 1934, who pitched for the Mules during his four years in College and then made a name for himself in independent ball in this area, has been named baseball coach for the year and is whipping his team into shape for the opening game with the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis on April 14. Then we follow with Lehigh at Bethlehem on April 18 and at home on April 25, with Ursinus at Collegeville on April 28, Penn State at Penn State on May 2, F. and M. in Allentown on May 5 and at Lancaster on May 12, Drexel in Philadelphia on May 16, Princeton at Princeton on May 19, Ursinus in Allentown on May 23, Swarthmore at home on May 26 and at Swarthmore on June 2. That's the complete schedule to date.

In track, Rollin Wolfe, former Penn State Star now an Allentown architect, again has taken over the coaching reins. He's getting the boys ready for a meet with Lafayette in Allentown on April 21, for the Penn Relays on April 27 and 28, for the Middle Atlantic States Conference competition at Swarthmore on May 5, for a meet with Penn State at Penn State on May 12, with Ursinus and Lehigh at home on May 19, and with Swarthmore at home on May 26.

Big faculty news this week is the fact that Haps Benfer is a grand pappy and has been presented with a cane. When he got the news all the buttons popped off his vest and he hasn't been the same since. The baby--a boy--was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Benfer on Palm Sunday. And talking about the faculty, Dr. Donald Shay, who has started his work in the Baltimore School of Dentistry, was back over the weekend. Yes, he still feels that Muhlenberg is home. I believe we forgot to tell you that Doc Shankweiler's other sidekick, John Trainer, became a cop for the second time on March 11. It's another boy.

We continue to have visitors. MAJOR PHIL PARKINSON '39, who served overseas three years with the oldest transportation squadron in the European theatre, answered a few questions during a brief leave before



reporting to the North Atlantic division of the Air Transport Command. For the last six months of his overseas tour he was in France as the commanding officer of a Transport Squadron. As part of his work he personally has flown most of the "Stars" in the United States and Allied commands. CAPTAIN DILL ALBRIGHT '33, who had just opened an office in Orefield when the Army called, came back a week or so ago after 23 months of service with the Medical Corps in Africa and Italy. And MAJOR FORREST MOYER--we told you about his being back in the last letter--is spending at least part of his leave as a patient in the Allentown hospital. Haven't heard as yet what it was that didn't agree with him when he hit the States after three years abroad.

In the vital statistics department we can report that CAPTAIN ROBERT H. DILCHER '34, stationed at Indiantown Gap, became the papa of a baby girl on March 24; that MAJOR GEORGE HEINTZELMAN '33, in the Medical Corps in Belgium, added another son to his family on April 1; that PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM '43--it will be LIEUTENANT when he graduates from Hahnemann Medical College in June--was married to Ruth Lukens of Wilkes-Barre on March 30; that LIEUTENANT GEORGE McCABE (Marine V-12er) was married to Velera Burton, Hollywood starlet, on March 12; and that APPRENTICE SEAMAN GEORGE ROWNEY '43 was married to Agnes Frantz of Greenawalds on March 31.

Marine LIEUTENANT SIDNEY PACE, who was a member of our first V-12 unit, was killed in action on Iwo Jima on March 3, according to word received by his wife, the former Ruth Cosgrove, at one time a library assistant at Muhlenberg. His wife and son survive.

We expect good news one of these days from LIEUTENANT RALPH LENTZ '44, Army Air Force pilot, reported missing in action on January 23, his 23rd birthday. His wife has received word that his plane was under control when it was seen going down and--knowing Ralph--we expect him to turn up safe and sound as so many other Muhlenberg men have done.

CAPTAIN ISRAEL YOST '37, chaplain with the 100th Battalion of the 442nd Japanese-American Combat team, has added the Legion of Merit to his other decorations. He was cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct. In spite of the fact that he was wounded twice by shell fire, he was not deterred from his attempts to relieve the physical and spiritual suffering of friend and foe, regardless of position on the battlefield. He is serving with the Sixth Army in France.

And once again, if we don't dip into the mail bag, we'll be sorely pressed for space in just a little while.

LT.(jg) BOB HARNED '28 is getting his mail aboard ship--a cruiser we believe--in the Atlantic. He managed to get a leave over the Easter weekend. ENSIGN AL STEAD '43 on an LC something or other in the Pacific confirms the rumor that he was married "to the best little gal in the world." But we're still trying to find out what her name is. He met ENSIGN TOM O'HAGAN '45 in Pacific waters and they agree that Muhlenberg is a great school, that it never will have to take a back seat for any college. LT. GEORGE BERGHORN '42 and SK3/c LEON ROSENBERG '34 are aboard LSM's in the Pacific, according to the latest letters. LT.(jg) KENNETH BACHMAN '39, medical officer with an LCS group in the Pacific, was transferred to the commanding officer's staff and as a result travelled 2,500 miles so fast he still doesn't know what it is all about. SI/c BRUCE HANDELONG '45 reports he's looking for Muhlenberg men as he travels around the Pacific.

"Thanks for the regular news of Muhlenberg doings--both in Allentown and around the world," writes CHAPLAIN ARNOLD P. SPOHN '39 from his ship in Pacific waters. "Muhlenberg is doing a wonderful piece of work for us globe-trotters with the latest flashes and noises abroad made by men who were made at Muhlenberg." He is hoping for an early settlement "of this mess and for a peace arrangement that is worthy of the high standards of our country--one that is based on the standards set by our Christian Religion and our Democracy."

From Pacific waters--just for variety--we'll hop to Germany. From that theatre PVT. DONALD BROBST '32 writes that he appreciates the

hours spent in the classes of Dr. Reichard and Dr. Barba. He's especially glad he took the conversation course, because it is helping him do some interpreting which is providing interesting and unusual situations. SGT. ROBERT IBSEN '34 also is seeing Germany firsthand.

As he travels through Germany on the road to Berlin, LT. KEN DINGER '35 reports that practically every city has been reduced to a pile of rocks and rubbish and that the white flag of surrender is prominently displayed by the supermen. SGT. CLEVE KENNEDY '43 was in their pitching in the drive for the big river. Many German prisoners, he says, declare that they'd sooner surrender than die. HERB GORIN '35 is in there too "fighting for all we are worth and steadily pushing the bad boys back." SGT. RAY COCHRAN '44 is another of the boys who has checked in from the German front. We hope we'll soon be hearing from all of you fellows and that the big red postmark will be "BERLIN".

In his trek across France, HAROLD KNAUSS '42 has seen a few of the places that made news--Marseilles, Lyons, and some of the others. He's with the medics and indicates he may have a few good stories to tell when he comes home.

"Honest, if you saw the planes going over during the day and then heard the roar of the motors at night you would wonder, like us, how the Germans can keep it up," writes S/SGT. FRANKIE FELTMAN '42 from France. LT. FRANK PECKACEK '42 helped drive the Jerries back to the Siegfried line, watched until the break-through caused his unit to fall back a few miles before it held, participated in the Battle of the Bulge, and then the race to the Rhine. His outfit was the first to reach the Rhine and the second to cross it. Now he is in a hospital in France, recuperating from shrapnel wounds suffered on March 14 and looking forward to an "abrupt ending and an everlasting peace." In a headquarters unit in France, CPL. KENNETH MOYER '34 keeps his Muhlenberg calendar on his desk and cheerfully answers all questions about his college. CPL. G.C. SHIPSTON '43 and CPL. JOE FLEISCHMANN '45 also are in France.

The Eighth Air Force reports that SGT. FRED JOHNSON '44 has received the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in bombing attacks on military defense points and enemy lines in Germany. He is the tail gunner of a Flying Fortress. Over in England T/SGT. CHARLIE STOPP '30 has gained some actual knowledge of Hitler's bombing and his diabolical V-1 and V-2 robots. LT. BOB DILLINGER '34 writes from Burma that the service letters are reaching him regularly. From the same theatre comes word that CAPT. RUSSELL DERR '36 has just arrived there. His outfit is running a small hospital unit. LT. BOB DIBBELL '42 writes from a New York APO address and says he has been doing a good bit of moving around in recent months. PVT. A.E. ANDREJESKI '46 still is with a hospital ship unit with a New York Embarkation APO address. Easter greetings from CPL. CLARENCE BERNHARD '30 arrived the other day, presumably from Africa. Also from Africa (not from Greece) comes word that ENSIGN EDDIE PHILLIPS '45 is the disbursing officer at a Naval Receiving Station in Algeria. Sports, an officers club, an officers beach club, a long summer, and a jeep help keep him just as happy as if he had been given that long coveted assignment as Admiral of the Fleet of the Greek Navy. Only trouble is that he occasionally is mistaken for an Arab.

And now back to the Pacific where LT. COMMANDER LUTHER GERHART '22 still holds the Muhlenberg controls in Hawaii. The boys had an informal alumni meeting out there the other night with LT. FRED GEHR '32 and LT. RALPH SELL '28. They'll have one anytime they find a few Muhlenberg men to join them. Fred was the host to that group and, according to Gerhart, set it up in the best Navy fashion. Gerhart also got to see SGT. RICHARD ERB '46, still sticking out his chest about Muhlenberg. In Hawaii PFC. ROBERT STAHL '43 continues to bump into Muhlenberg men. Latest find was his classmate, ENSIGN PAUL BOTTIGER. Now both of them are joining the Muhlenberg lookout party.

Only one letter from the Philippines this trip--that from S/SGT. SPIRO CHIAPARAS '42 who sent us some Jap invasion money taken when a Jap finance office was captured intact. From another point in the

Pacific, LT.(jg) CHUCK MORAN '43 reports that he is resting a bit after 70 patrols with his PT unit. ENSIGN DENNY WEBSTER '44, still shore-based in Australia, says all his efforts to become seagoing have been fruitless to this point. LT. WOODROW WENDLING '37 is stationed with an Army medical unit somewhere in the Pacific. Then there's word from RDML/c HARMON VEEDER '44, stationed on one of the Mariana group. He's still in the habit of taking helmet baths and has become accustomed to old movies. LT. BOB ROWLAND '41 is another of the boys with a South Pacific address. Like Wendling, he's in a medical unit.

Among the boys who have written from overseas to give us their ideas on Universal Military Training is SGT. TOM MEREDITH '42, fighting in Germany. Other letters on the same subject have come from PFC. BERTRAM LEVINSTONE '42, at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School; Fl/c EDWIN KOCH '43 at Camp Edwards, Mass.; and SGT. ALTON CLAUSER '35 at the Ashburn General Hospital at McKinney, Texas. We're saving those letters for the symposium in the next issue of the Alumni Magazine.

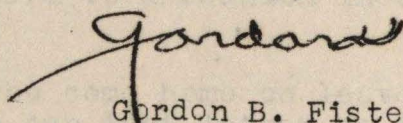
Domestic mail comes from ENSIGN FRED BOWMAN '44 now at the Aerology Office at the Naval Air Station in Beaufort, S.C.; LT.(jg) GEORGE SWEDA '43, back in Corpus Christi after a short tour of duty at Mitchell Field, N.Y.; GEORGE SINICHKO of the V-12 unit, enjoying life on the Duke University campus; SGT. JOHN DEVORE '33, who was graduated from the Transport Service Course at the School for Personnel Services in Lexington, Va.; CHARLIE SCHIFFERT '43, still on the ball at Hahnemann Medical College; CAPT. LINDLEY YERG '41, recovering from serious wounds in the England General Hospital in Atlantic City; PVT. HARRY RANK '48, stationed at Fort McClellan, Ala.; LT. KENNY STONE '44 of the Marines who moved to the West Coast after a brief leave at home; CPL. ARTHUR DeMARTINI '45 in the Percy Jones hospital at Battle Creek, Mich.; Hal/c IRA WEISMANN '47, holding the fort at Bainbridge; and from PVT. DONALD V. HOCK '32, just in the Army and temporarily on duty (including 15 hours of KP) at New Cumberland, Pa.

In the earlier paragraphs of this letter we forgot to tell you about a pleasant little visit with SGT. ED MINKA '30, visiting some of his old haunts on a convalescent leave from a hospital at Camp Pickett. Ed has been stationed in Hawaii.

Now for the promotions that we missed last time: LIEUTENANT (jg) HARVEY WITWER '43; SEAMAN FIRST CLASS JOSEPH F. CHIPSER '43; ENSIGN EDWARD F. MULLER '44; SEAMAN FIRST CLASS JOSEPH SHANOSKY '43; LIEUTENANT (jg) FRANK TAYLOR '42; SEAMAN FIRST CLASS JOHN M. PHILLIPS '44; CORPORAL GEORGE RIZOS '44; ENSIGN EDMUND TANGUAY '44; PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WALTER P. CONRAD '30; Hal/c THEODORE COLARUSSO '47; CORPORAL LEWIS FLUCK '45; Fl/c JOSEPH A. IANDOLO '44; PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WOODROW KISTLER '34; SEAMAN FIRST CLASS WILLIAM MORRISON '44; Sl/cSp(G) Raymond D. Barnes '46; ENSIGN ROBERT K. BOSCH '45; SK1/c ALBERT M. SWANK '29; SERGEANT HENRY BREMER '35; SECOND LIEUTENANT ROBERT HILL '44; PRIVATE FIRST CLASS RICHARD HARRIER '45; ENSIGN BEN CELIAN '43; PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GERALD SNYDER '40; LIEUTENANT (jg) MORRIS EFRON '32; CAPTAIN ROBERT J. RUHF '41; LIEUTENANT (jg) CHARLES MORAN '43; LIEUTENANT (jg) JACK CLIFFORD '43; CORPORAL GERALD HALL '31; CORPORAL DALE JOHNSON '47; FLIGHT OFFICER RICHARD DENT '44; CAPTAIN LINDLEY YERG '41; CAPTAIN RICHARD McKITTRICK '37; SERGEANT WILLIAM KECK '43; ART1/c DONALD SEEGER '45; ENSIGN STEPHEN WALLACH '44; ENSIGN CHARLES GOODALL '43; LIEUTENANT GEORGE BERGHORN '42; T/5 LEON McGROGAN '41; SERGEANT ROY KERN '45; LIEUTENANT (jg) RICHARD ZELLERS '43; and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS SOL RESN

That's all the news from this end. The news you fellows are making is the news that really counts. We enjoy reading about it in the papers--but best of all we like to get your versions. Keep up the good work and keep telling us about it. Best of luck to you all until the next time.

Sincerely,



Gordon B. Fister
For the Alumni Office